

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 have been examined.

Preliminary Matters

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging Applicant's claim to foreign priority and for confirming that the priority papers have been received by the Patent Office. Further, Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating receipt of the Information Disclosure Statements filed on January 9, 2002, June 28, 2002 and November 25, 2003 and for confirming that the references listed therein have been considered. Applicant also thanks the Examiner for indicating that the drawings filed on January 9, 2002 have been accepted by the Patent Office.

Objections to Disclosure

The Examiner has objected to the Title of the invention. Applicant has rewritten the Title, and submits that the new Title addresses this objection.

The Examiner has objected to the Abstract for including reference numerals. Applicant has amended the Abstract as requested by the Examiner and submits that such amendments overcome this objection.

The Examiner has also objected to the disclosure, including the Claims, Abstract and Specification as containing certain grammatical errors. Applicant has amended the Abstract and claims 2, 3, 5 and 6, as suggested by the Examiner. Such claim amendments are not made in view of the prior art and do not narrow the scope of these claims. Further, the Applicant has amended the Specification and submits hereto a Substitute Specification which addresses the Examiner's objection. The Substitute Specification does not contain any new matter.

Claims 1 and 4

Claims 1 and 4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Tan (U.S. Patent No. 5,870,579). As noted above, Applicant has cancelled claims 1 and 4. Accordingly, the Examiner's § 102(b) rejection is now moot.

Claims 2, 3, 5 and 6

The Examiner has objected to claims 2, 3, 5 and 6 because they contain certain informalities. However, the Examiner has indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the referenced informalities and to include the limitations of the respective base claims. Applicant has amended claims 2, and 5 to include the limitations of base claims 1 and 4, respectively. Such amendments are not made in view of the prior art and do not narrow the scope of the claims. Applicant, therefore, respectfully submits that claims 2, and 5 are now allowable. Further since claims 3 and 6 depend from claims 2 and 5, respectively, these claims are also now in allowable form.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No. 10/040,392

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

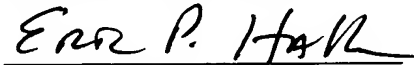
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